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INFORMATION ON INDONESIA LAND FORCES STAFF AND COMMAND SCHOOL

[This report gives information on the SSKAD (Sekolah Staf dan Komando Angkatan Darat, Land Forces Staff and Command School) from an article written by Major Soetarto, Chief of the Training Bureau of the SSKAD. The article appeared in Yudhagama, the official organ of the Indonesian Ministry of Defense.]

I. ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION OF THE SSKAD

On 17 November 1951, Vice-President Hatta formally established the SSKAD, thereby implementing the order of the Chief of Staff of the Land Forces, Order No 95/KSAD/Kpts/51, dated 25 May 1951.

The SSKAD is intended to train Land Force officers for positions as company, battalion, or regimental unit commanders, and as staff officers, under the direct supervision of the Chief of Staff of the Land Forces. The period of study of a candidate for battalion commander is 9 months, and for staff officer is 18 months.

Lieutenant Colonel A. J. Mokoginta, former Chief of Staff of the Army and of Territory IV, has been appointed acting commander of the SSKAD. The school is quartered temporarily in a new building at Tjililitan I, near the Tjililitan airfield of the AURI (Indonesian Air Force). According to the plans of the Chief of Staff of the Land Forces, as soon as the former villa Isola di Lembang, in Bandung, has been renovated, the school will be moved there.

SSKAD instructors include Land Forces officers, officers of the Land Forces Section of the Netherlands Military Mission, civil service employees, and private individuals. The 4th Battalion (A3-W) of the General Reserve Corps, General Headquarters of the Land Forces, has been assigned to assist the SSKAD in training, especially in practical infantry instruction. The 4th Battalion is under the command of Captain Poniman.

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II. CURRICULUM

A. Review of Elementary Subjects

Elementary subjects offered for review and the degree of proficiency required are as follows:

1. Existing service and garrison service regulations, thorough knowledge.
2. Existing regulations on unit formations and military courtesy, thorough knowledge. It is necessary to have the ability to serve as a battalion commander in the formations of closed exercises and parades.
3. Technique of firing and the tactical use of firearms that constitute an organic part of the infantry battalion equipment; complete knowledge.
4. Cartographic symbols; adequate knowledge. Training is given in map reading and orientation, use of the compass, map drawing, including use of acetate. Some experience is given in road, bridge, and field reconnaissance.
5. Tactical combat technique of infantry battalion units as detailed in regulations which have been issued to date; adequate knowledge.
6. Regulations on military discipline; thorough knowledge. Civil, military, and criminal law, the laws of war and the regulations governing the SOB (State of War and Siege); general knowledge.
7. Conduct of military administration; appropriate understanding. Administrative work at battalion and company level, adequate knowledge. There must be an understanding of the liability of state officials for errors they may make to the detriment of the nation.

B. Military Science Subjects Offered

Subjects offered in military science and the degree of proficiency required are as follows:

1. Principles of tactical combat, and functions and possible uses of weapons, especially as applied to conditions within Indonesia; adequate knowledge. Cooperative activities of the various arms and services of an infantry battalion; adequate knowledge. Instruction is given in investigation and security.
2. Organization from the division level up, and the structure of the component units of the division; adequate knowledge.
3. Duties of staff officers, cooperation within the staff, technique of command and message service, and general methods of handling service and routine staff and officer correspondence; adequate knowledge.
4. Organization and service of military supply; general knowledge. Rights and obligations of the battalion commander regarding battalion supply, especially with respect to guarding, storing, and preserving supplies; thorough knowledge.
5. Message sending; adequate knowledge. Instruction is given regarding the duties, organization, and operation of the communications service.
6. Ballistics, emphasizing explosives and their handling, and the construction of weapons and munitions; general knowledge.

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7. Construction of fortifications, camouflage, concealment, dummy structures, bridge construction, repair and improvement of roads and bridges, and technique of placement and destructive possibilities of mines and booby traps; general knowledge.

8. Endemic diseases of Indonesia; an understanding. Military hygiene; thorough knowledge.

9. Instruction is given on morale and factors which influence morale. The principles of discipline and military leadership are given.

10. Principles of automobile mechanics; general knowledge.

11. Instruction is given in military geography.

C. Demonstrations in Leadership Theory

Tactical theory is demonstrated with sand-box models, by use of maps, and by field training. During the second and third training periods, instruction is given in command of a platoon and a company, and, during the fourth training period, instruction is given in the command of a battalion, including the cooperative activities of component units of the battalion.

D. Practice in Leadership

With the aid of a training battalion, practical application is made of that which has been learned.

E. Physical Training

Physical training is given in gymnastics, field sports, and self-defense, the latter practiced without weapons. The sports to be offered are designated in agreement with the sports officer. Skill in negotiating terrain is especially emphasized.

F. General Instruction

Instruction is given in the forms of government in general and in the policies of the Indonesian government in particular. The culture and social anthropology of Indonesia is studied. Instruction is given in political science, sociology, economics, and English, with emphasis on both technical and military terms.

G. Intellectual Development

Training is given in ideology of the state and the army, and the history of the Indonesian national culture. In addition, spiritual exercises are given.

III. STUDENTS

A. Requirements

Students of SSKAD are appointed by an order issued by the Chief of Staff of the Land Forces after having been nominated by the directors, commandants, and chiefs of the Arms, Services, and Departments of the Land Forces. The number of students selected each year is fixed by the Chief of Staff of the Land Forces according to the needs of the Land Forces. The requirements for nomination as a student are as follows:

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1. Rank not lower than first lieutenant.
2. At least 5 years service as an officer.
3. Service as commander of a unit (section, company, or battalion).
4. Completion of upper middle school or its equivalent, or the attainment of the second class of upper middle school or its equivalent with a statement from the nominating director, chief, or commandant that the candidate has attained an education equivalent to an upper middle school graduate.
5. Pass a psychological test.
6. Possess good health and meet the requirements for field duty.

Officers not meeting these requirements may be accepted as students only at the direction of the Chief of Staff of the Land Forces.

B. Training Status

During the course of their training, students are regarded as Land Forces personnel on "extraordinary detached duty." The provisions of the order by the Chief of Staff of the Land Forces, Order No 135/KSAD/Pnt/51, dated 14 September 1951, concerning pay, allowances, and detachment, apply to these students.

To maintain military discipline and to facilitate their instruction, in the barracks and during training, students are required to remove all insignia of rank, service, or position, and replace them with the insignia of SSKAD students. Off duty and outside the barracks, the students may wear their insignia of rank, but shall continue to wear the SSKAD arm insignia, which is a partially opened jasmine bud.

C. List of Students

The following list gives the names of the first Land Force officers designated as SSKAD students.

1. Lieutenant Colonel A. Nasuhi, Commander B Brigade, Territory III, West Java
2. Major Muffraini, Military Police, Siliwangi Division, Territory III
3. Major Lucas Kustario, Commander 313th Battalion, Territory III
4. Major Amir Mahmud, Commander 309th Battalion, C Brigade, 4th Division, Territory III
5. Major Sudharmo, Commander 403d Battalion, Diponegoro Division, Territory IV
6. Major Sutarno, Commander 421st Battalion, Territory IV
7. Major Bambang Juwono, Commander 516th Battalion, 1st Division, Territory V
8. Major Munadi, Brigade Major, E Brigade, Territory VI
9. Major Sunjoto, Deputy Chief 4th Section, General Staff, Land Forces
10. Major Suhono Ongko, Director Communications Corps, Land Forces

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11. Major S. Tjakradipura, Assistant Chief of Staff, Land Forces
12. Major Rusman, Brigade Major, 4th Brigade, 1st Division, Territory V
13. Major Milujo Puspojudo, Commander E Brigade, Territory VI
14. Major Hartojo, Commander 401/N Battalion, Territory IV
15. Major Minggu, Commander of Artillery, Territory V
16. Major Berlian, Director of Military Administration, Land Forces
17. Major Abdullah Rasjid, Director D. B. T., Staff of Engineers, Land Forces
18. Major Sukendro, Commander Ambon Base
19. Captain Suprpto, Assistant Chief of Staff, Territory IV
20. Captain Sumitro, Commander 512th Battalion, 4th Brigade, 1st Division, Territory IV
21. Captain Siswadi, Commander 502d Battalion, 1st Brigade, Territory V
22. Captain Nawawy, Chief 3d Section, Territory II
23. Captain Djuhartono, Chief 4th Section, Territory II
24. Captain Sahala Hutabarat, Staff Captain B. B. Battalion, Territory I
25. Captain Neland Sembiring, Commander 101st Battalion, B. B. Brigade, Territory I
26. Captain Anwar Badu, Commander 125th Battalion, EE Brigade, Territory I

D. Disposition Upon Leaving the School

1. Students who pass the final examination are granted an SSKAD diploma.
2. Students who do not pass the final examination are returned to their original military unit unless the Chief of Staff of the Land Forces orders them to take the examination again or to transfer to another unit.
3. Persons holding an SSKAD diploma are placed on the roster of candidates for battalion or regimental commanders, for regimental chiefs of staff, or for staff officers of the army, the territorial staff, or the general staff or the Land Forces staff.

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